

Message Text

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INFO USMISSION GENEVA
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 313314

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PARM, PFOR, ICRC, USSR

SUBJECT: CONSULTATIONS ON INTERNATIONAL
HUMANITARIAN LAW

1) FORMAL OPENING OF FOURTH SESSION OF GENEVA DIPLOMATIC
CONFERENCE ON REAFFIRMATION AND DEVELOPMENT OF INTER-
NATIONAL HUMANITARIAN LAW APPLICABLE IN ARMED CONFLICTS
IS SCHEDULED FOR MARCH 17, 1977, WITH MAIN COMMITTEES
TO BEGIN WORK IN MID-APRIL. US AND USSR DELS AT CON-
FERENCE HAVE CONSULTED DURING PREVIOUS SESSIONS OF
CONFERENCE AND HAVE HELD BILATERAL MEETING EITHER
IMMEDIATELY PRIOR TO OPENING OF EACH SESSION OR AT EARLY
STAGE. AT CLOSE OF THIRD SESSION OF CONFERENCE LAST
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JUNE, USSR AND US DELS AGAIN EXPRESSED DESIRE TO HAVE
CONSULTATIONS IN ADVANCE OF FOURTH SESSION.

2) WE THEREFORE REQUESTED USUN (ROBERT ROSENSTOCK, US
REP IN SIXTH COMMITTEE) TO PROPOSE TO USSR DEL TO UNGA
(DMITRI M. KOLESNIK, DEPUTY LEGAL ADVISER, MFA) THAT

US-USSR BILATERAL CONSULTATIONS BE HELD IN GENEVA ON
FEBRUARY 18, 1977, WITH POSSIBLE SPILL-OVER TO FEBRUARY
19. FYI: THESE DATES CONVENIENT BECAUSE APPROPRIATE US
TEAM WILL BE IN EUROPE FOR OTHER MEETINGS IMMEDIATELY

PRIOR AND AFTER. END FYI. ROSENSTOCK APPROACHED
KOLESNIK WEEK OF NOV. 22, 1976, AND FOLLOWED UP WEEK
OF DEC. 13, BUT KOLESNIK DID NOT RECEIVE RESPONSE FROM
MOSCOW BEFORE END OF UNGA. KOLESNIK PROMISED TO
PURSUE MATTER ON HIS RETURN TO MOSCOW.

3) WE REQUEST EMBASSY FOLLOW UP WITH KOLESNIK AS
APPROPRIATE WITH VIEW TO LETTING US KNOW AS SOON AS
POSSIBLE WHETHER BILATERAL CONSULTATIONS IN GENEVA FEB.
18-19 ARE ACCEPTABLE TO USSR.
ROBINSON

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